

**To:** Lee, Monica[[Lee.Monica@epa.gov](mailto:Lee.Monica@epa.gov)]; Purchia, Liz[[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov](mailto:Purchia.Liz@epa.gov)]  
**From:** Loop, Travis  
**Sent:** Wed 8/12/2015 5:48:39 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: CBS National News Inquiry

Fyi - seeing what TRI might have on mining data so we have it handy

Travis Loop  
Communications Director for Water  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Phone: 202.870.6922  
Follow us on Twitter @EPAwater

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Loop, Travis" <[Loop.Travis@epa.gov](mailto:Loop.Travis@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 12, 2015 at 1:47:45 PM EDT  
**To:** "Swenson, Sarah" <[Swenson.Sarah@epa.gov](mailto:Swenson.Sarah@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Felver, Rachel" <[Felver.Rachel@epa.gov](mailto:Felver.Rachel@epa.gov)>, "Han, Kaythi" <[Han.Kaythi@epa.gov](mailto:Han.Kaythi@epa.gov)>, "Bravo, Antonio" <[Bravo.Antonio@epa.gov](mailto:Bravo.Antonio@epa.gov)>, "Siedschlag, Gregory" <[Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov](mailto:Siedschlag.Gregory@epa.gov)>, "Eisenberg, Mindy" <[Eisenberg.Mindy@epa.gov](mailto:Eisenberg.Mindy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: CBS National News Inquiry**

I guess so ( not sure if TRI can weigh in on that), along with any other relevant info on this issue. Might be good to see what we have on mining given the situation and increasing questions OPA is receiving. Thanks!

Travis Loop  
Communications Director for Water  
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On Aug 12, 2015, at 1:44 PM, Swenson, Sarah <[Swenson.Sarah@epa.gov](mailto:Swenson.Sarah@epa.gov)> wrote:

To clarify, you're looking to see what TRI can say about this fact?

***The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 40% of the headwaters of watersheds in the western United States are contaminated by pollution from hardrock mines.***

Sarah Swenson  
Communications Coordinator  
Toxics Release Inventory Program  
U.S. EPA  
(202) 566-0279

**From:** Felver, Rachel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 1:13 PM  
**To:** Loop, Travis; Han, Kaythi; Swenson, Sarah  
**Cc:** Bravo, Antonio; Siedschlag, Gregory; Eisenberg, Mindy  
**Subject:** RE: CBS National News Inquiry

Checking now.

Rachel Felver  
Communications Director  
Office of Environmental Information  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
(202) 564-0955 (desk)  
(202) 664-3995 (mobile)

**From:** Loop, Travis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 1:12 PM  
**To:** Han, Kaythi; Felver, Rachel; Swenson, Sarah  
**Cc:** Bravo, Antonio; Siedschlag, Gregory; Eisenberg, Mindy  
**Subject:** Re: CBS National News Inquiry

Good idea. Should coordinate with OEI as well, particularly in case there is geographic specific info. Adding them.

Travis Loop

Communications Director for Water

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: 202.870.6922

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On Aug 12, 2015, at 1:10 PM, Han, Kaythi <[Han.Kaythi@epa.gov](mailto:Han.Kaythi@epa.gov)> wrote:

This information from TRI may help inform our answer:

For 2013, metal mining facilities were responsible for the largest quantity of on- and off-site disposal or other releases of toxic chemicals of any industry, with 1,965,815,554 pounds (including releases to air, water, and land). Coal mining ranked #14, with 10,841,677 pounds.

For the same year, TRI metal mining facilities reported discharging 1,315,964 pounds of chemicals to surface water (#11 out of all TRI industries). Coal mining facilities reported discharging 176,615 pounds (#14) to surface waters.

As far as mining releases to water, according to last year's national analysis, mining was included in the "All others" that accounted for 8% of water releases by sector. See <http://www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/2013-tri-national-analysis-water-releases-water-releases-0> for more information.

Metal mining released 1.3 million pounds to water in 2013 (0.066% of total mining releases). This is out of 211.59 million pounds of on-site surface water discharges nation-wide from all sectors, making metal mining account for 0.61% of all surface water discharges in 2013.

**From:** Bravo, Antonio  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 1:05 PM  
**To:** Loop, Travis; Han, Kaythi  
**Cc:** Siedschlag, Gregory; Eisenberg, Mindy  
**Subject:** RE: CBS National News Inquiry

Got it. Farmed this out to Wetlands Division for quick turnaround...

**From:** Loop, Travis  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 12:48 PM  
**To:** Han, Kaythi  
**Cc:** Bravo, Antonio; Siedschlag, Gregory  
**Subject:** Re: CBS National News Inquiry

It is critical that we work hard and fast on inquiries related to the mine spill issue.

Travis Loop

Communications Director for Water

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: 202.870.6922

Follow us on Twitter @EPAwater

On Aug 12, 2015, at 12:36 PM, Han, Kaythi <[Han.Kaythi@epa.gov](mailto:Han.Kaythi@epa.gov)> wrote:

Antonio and Greg,

CBS is looking to fact-check a figure from a 2000 report from the National Wildlife Federation; can you check if we have anything more recent?

Inquiry:

CBS National News is looking for some information regarding this 2000 report from the National Wildlife Federation: <http://www.nwf.org/What-We->

<Do/Energy-and-Climate/Drilling-and-Mining/~/media/EDAE3F91228A46EFA9D63A631EEF073F.ashx>

We are wondering if there is an updated number for the following statistic stated in the report: ***The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 40% of the headwaters of watersheds in the western United States are contaminated by pollution from hardrock mines.***

Thanks,

Kaythi

**From:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 12:26 PM  
**To:** Colaizzi, Jennifer C.  
**Cc:** Han, Kaythi; Loop, Travis; Lee, Monica  
**Subject:** RE: CBS National News Inquiry

+ Travis, Monica and Kaythi. Please note Jennifer's question about the Gold King Mine incident.

Thanks, R.

**From:** Colaizzi, Jennifer C.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 12:18 PM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Subject:** Re: CBS National News Inquiry

The OSWER Mine expert says this is OW. However, can you ask if there is any information that can be rolled into a background Q&As for this incident?

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**From:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 11:37 AM

**To:** Colaizzi, Jennifer C.  
**Subject:** FW: CBS National News Inquiry

Jen, I hesitate to send this to EOC, as this looks like a more general inquiry, probably for OW and/or OSWER. Let me know if I should send to other people.

**From:** Jones, Enesta  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 12, 2015 11:35 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Cc:** Lehman, Rachel; Ludwigsen, Emily  
**Subject:** Fwd: CBS National News Inquiry

**Enesta Jones**

U.S. EPA, Office of Media Relations

**Desk:** 202.564.7873

**Cell:** 202.236.2426

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Shahida, Yasmin" <[ShahidaY@cbsnews.com](mailto:ShahidaY@cbsnews.com)>  
**Date:** August 12, 2015 at 11:33:28 AM EDT  
**To:** "[jones.enesta@epa.gov](mailto:jones.enesta@epa.gov)" <[jones.enesta@epa.gov](mailto:jones.enesta@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** CBS National News Inquiry

Hi Enesta,

CBS National News is looking for some information regarding this 2000 report from the National Wildlife Federation: <http://www.nwf.org/What-We-Do/Energy-and-Climate/Drilling-and-Mining/~/media/EDAE3F91228A46EFA9D63A631EEF073F.ashx>

We are wondering if there is an updated number for the following statistic stated in the report: ***The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that 40% of the headwaters of watersheds in the western United States are contaminated by pollution from hardrock mines.***

If you could please get back to me as soon as possible about these two inquiries that would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

Yasmin

Yasmin Shahida

News Associate | CBS Evening News with Scott Pelley

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[shahiday@cbsnews.com](mailto:shahiday@cbsnews.com)